

Message Text

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47

ACTION EA-09

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 AID-05 CIAE-00 COME-00 EB-07 FRB-03

INR-07 NSAE-00 USIA-06 TRSE-00 XMB-02 OPIC-03 SP-02

CIEP-01 LAB-04 SIL-01 OMB-01 NSC-05 SS-15 STR-04

CEA-01 EPA-01 CEQ-01 OES-03 AGR-05 /087 W

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R 221042Z DEC 75

FM AMEMBASSY BANGKOK

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 5915

INFO AMEMBASSY JAKARTA

AMEMBASSY KUALA LUMPUR

AMEMBASSY MANILA

AMEMBASSY SINGAPORE

AMEMBASSY TOKYO

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: EINV, WAID, JA

SUBJECT: JAPANESE INVESTMENT SURVEY MISSION TO ASEAN COUNTRIES

REF: STATE 292137

1. EMBOFF TALKED WITH THE JAPANESE COMMERCIAL ATTACHE ABOUT SUBJECT MISSION. WHILE THE FINAL REPORT IS NOT YET PUBLISHED IN TOKYO ON THE MISSION'S CONCLUSIONS, HE MADE THE FOLLOWING COMMENTS:

2. DISAPPOINTINGLY, THE MISSION, EXCEPT FOR THE LEADER, TAKAO NAGATA, PRESIDENT OF HITACHI SHIPBUILDING AND ENGINEERING CO., WAS COMPOSED OF SECOND AND THIRD RANK BUSINESS-MEN AND OTHERS, RATHER THAN PRESIDENTS OF LARGE CONCERNS. THEIR PURPOSE WAS TO TRAVEL TO THE VARIOUS ASEAN COUNTRIES TO ASSESS THE PRESENT INVESTMENT CLIMATE, TO TALK WITH LOCAL
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LEADERS ABOUT HOW FUTURE JAPANESE INVESTMENT CAN BE OF GREATER

ASSISTANCE TO THE HOST COUNTRIES, AND TO EXPRESS THEIR BELIEF THAT JAPANESE FIRMS MUST AND WILL PAY MORE ATTENTION TO POLLUTION CONTROL. THE CONCERN ABOUT POLLUTION STEMS FROM ATTACKS BY OPPOSITION PARTIES IN THE DIET THAT JAPAN HAS BEEN EXPORTING ITS POLLUTION PROBLEM OVERSEAS, ESPECIALLY TO SEA.

3. IN BANGKOK, THE MISSION MET, INTER ALIA, WITH DEPUTY PREMIER PRAMAN ADIREKSARN (WITH WHOM THE JAPANESE SEEM TO ENJOY A SPECIAL RELATIONSHIP THROUGH HIS TEXTILE VENTURES), WITH FINANCE MINISTER BOONCHU ROJANASATIAN, AND WITH BOARD OF TRADE PRESIDENT OB PASURAT (ALOS HIGHLY REGARDED BY THE JAPANESE BUSINESS COMMUNITY HERE). ON CONCLUSION OF THEIR VISIT, MR. NAGATA PRIVATELY SAID THAT HE WAS SURPRISED HOW :GOOD: THE PRESENT THAI INVESTMENT CLIMATE APPEARED TO BE IN CONTRAST TO HIS EXPECTATIONS BEFORE ARRIVAL. (COMMENT: PRESUMABLY THIS SENTIMENT WILL ECHOEE IN THE MISSION'S OFFICIAL REPORT.)
WHITEHOUSE

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: SURVEYS, INVESTMENT OPPORTUNITIES, INTERGOVERNMENTAL COOPERATION
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 22 DEC 1975
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: MorefiRH
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1975BANGKO26602
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D750444-0021
From: BANGKOK
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1975/newtext/t19751220/aaaaarkd.tel
Line Count: 79
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ACTION EA
Original Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: 75 STATE 292137
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: MorefiRH
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 16 JUL 2003
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <16 JUL 2003 by ElyME>; APPROVED <07 AUG 2003 by MorefiRH>
Review Markings:

Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
06 JUL 2006

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: JAPANESE INVESTMENT SURVEY MISSION TO ASEAN COUNTRIES
TAGS: EINV, EAID, JA, ASEAN
To: STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 06 JUL 2006